

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the Specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 45, at line 6, with the following new paragraph:

-- Each user computer 20 may be a personal computer, a hand-held computer, a palmtop computer, a laptop computer, a personal communication device, a personal digital assistant, a telephone, a digital telephone, a display telephone, a video telephone, a videophone, a third generation (3G) telephone, a cellular telephone, a wireless telephone, a television, an interactive television, a beeper, a pager, a watch, a network computer, a server computer, and/or any other communication device, suitable for allowing the user computer 20 to communicate with and/or to interact with the central processing computer(s) 10 and/or any of the other computers or communication devices described herein. Each user computer 20 can be utilized to transmit information to the central processing computer 10 and to receive information from the central processing computer 10 via the communication network.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 46, at line 18, with the following new paragraph:

-- A public election administrator computer 30 can be associated with and/or can be utilized by any elections administrator, elections commission, ~~elections administrator~~, elections commissioner and/or the commissioner's aides, administrative board, board of elections, and/or and other individual and/or entity that oversees, administers, monitors, elections for public offices and/or any other public elections. --.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 48, at line 4, with the following new paragraph:

-- In the preferred embodiment, any number of public election administrator computers 30 may be utilized. In the present invention, each elections administrator, ~~elections administrator~~, elections commissioner and/or the commissioner's aides, administrative board, board of elections, and/or and other individual and/or entity that oversees, administers, monitors, elections for public offices and/or any other public elections, utilizing

the present invention may have one or more public election administrator computer 30 associated therewith. --.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 68, at line 7, with the following new paragraph:

-- In the preferred embodiment, each of the central processing computer(s) 10, the user computer(s) 20, the public election administrator computer(s) 30, the private election administrator computer(s) 40, the campaign administrator computer(s) 50, the provider computer(s) 60, the media computer(s) 70, the external information source computer(s) 80, and/or the financial institution computer(s) 90, can transmit and/or receive data and/or information using Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP), as well as any other Internet and/or World Wide Web, protocols. --.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 143, at line 7, with the following new paragraph:

-- In another embodiment, the apparatus and method of the present invention can be utilized in order to perform polling and/or surveys and/or to make the results of the

respective polls and/or surveys available to any respective users of the present invention. Figure 14 illustrates still another preferred embodiment method for utilizing the present invention, in flow diagram form. --.